

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/074,433	CHEN, SU-MEI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hargobind S Sawhney	2875	

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to The amendment filed on 4/9/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2 and 5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|---|--|

1. The amendment filed on April 9, 2004 has been entered. Accordingly, claims 1,3,4 and 6 have been cancelled.
2. On June 3, 2004, the examiner contacted the attorney, Bruce H. Troxell, to inform that claims include allowable subject matter. However, one of the limitations of Claim 2, as suggested below, should be rephrased for definite recitation.

Claim 2, line 10, "aligning" should be recited as -- coaxially aligning with respective one of the shallow grooves --.

Mr. Troxell authorized an examiner's amendment requiring the above-indicated rephrasing of Claim 2. A copy of the interview summary is attached herewith.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Bruce H. Troxell on April 09, 2004

Claim 2, line 10, replace "aligning" with --coaxially aligning with respective one of the shallow grooves--.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2 and 5 are allowed.

The prior art of record, including Mizobe (US Patent No. 5,249,104), does not show or suggest the applicant's invention as claimed. Specifically, the prior art of record does not disclose an illuminated display seat combining:

- each of a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs) coaxially aligning with respective one of the shallow grooves to illuminate the display as recited in Claim 2.

The above-indicated combination makes this invention unique.

Mizobe ('104) discloses an optical display device comprising: a transparent seat body with a recess housing a circuit substrate and a plurality of LEDs connected to the circuit substrate 18 (Figures 3 and 4). However, Mizobe ('104) teaches LEDs not axially aligning with the respective grooves formed on the top surface of the seat body.

Therefore, Claim 2 is allowed over prior art.

Claim 5 is necessarily allowed because of their dependency on the allowed base Claim 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2875

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hargobind S Sawhney whose telephone number is 571-272-2380. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:15 - 2:45.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306/7724 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2956.

HSS

6/4/2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'THOMAS M. SEMBER', is written over a rectangular stamp.

**THOMAS M. SEMBER
PRIMARY EXAMINER**